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Bees

Matthew Spiring

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MATTHEW SPIRENG

BEEES

(for Keith)

You remember at seven visiting the farm,
watching the dogs loose in a far field
suddenly come running as if being chased.

The old man shouted Bees! and ran for
his truck, you and your father yours, and
got in just as the dogs, panting and frantic,

jumped in too, fur alive with yellow jackets
that took to you, so sixty years later
the memory is still as sharp as pain.